

trary to my experience. In that part of Nova Scotia that I am particularly familiar with, Annapolis, Yarmouth and Digby Counties, this bird is extremely abundant. Every autumn for the past eight years I have spent a month or more with Digby as my headquarters.

Here the Hudsonian Chickadee is rather hard to shoot owing to the nature of the country it inhabits, keeping almost exclusively in the thick second growth spruce and fir woods, but in a day's walk through their favorite haunts I never fail to see less than twenty-five or fifty and often many times that number. In October and November they are in large loose flocks in company with the Common Chickadee and the Golden-crowned Kinglet, and often the spruce woods seem fairly alive with these birds, always in motion, always passing on and on through the spruces, so fast that it is impossible to keep up to them. Often while walking through these dense forests of evergreens, suddenly as if by magic, the trees about one will become alive with these three species, their cheerful notes sounding from every branch and the next moment, as suddenly as they came, they will disappear again and leave the forest still and gloomy as before.

The country about Digby is strictly non-mountainous, and what hills there are, as the North Mountain back of the town of Digby, and the hills back of Granville on the opposite side of the Annapolis Basin, are covered with a hard wood growth, for the most part, principally beech. I never found the Hudsonian Chickadee in these woods. In fact I have never seen them except very occasionally anywhere but in the thick spruces and firs.

My own experience is, as I have stated above, confined to the autumn months, but my friend, Mr. H. A. P. Smith of Digby, N. S., who is a careful observer, tells me the bird is strictly resident and breeds abundantly.

In August and September, 1880, my brother, E. A. Bangs, was camped on the Restigouche River, N. B., and found the Hudsonian Chickadee very abundant all along the river. He got a good series of them without any difficulty.

So far from its being a rare visitor in any non-mountainous locality south of Hudson's Bay, I should be much surprised not to find the Hudsonian Chickadee abundant in any part of Canada, New Brunswick or Northern Maine, where the country was suitable to its mode of life.—
OUTRAM BANGS, *Boston, Mass.*

Notes on Some Long Island Birds.—*Empidonax flaviventris.*—Mr. E. F. Carson, of Brooklyn, has kindly permitted me to record two specimens of this Flycatcher, which he has secured in the vicinity of Brooklyn, N. Y. The first one was killed in a tree on Madison Street, in the heart of the city, on June 10, 1893; the second was shot in the woods at Parkville, Kings County, on August 19, 1893. They were both males, and the only ones we have met with on Long Island.

Empidonax acadicus.—On June 10, 1893, I shot a male of this species in tall woods covering a hillside in Woodhaven, Queens County. The bird

was feeding, and uttering a harsh, guttural note. At about the same date the previous year, and in the same woods, I heard the note of a Flycatcher which I supposed to be also of this species. Both of these appeared to be living in the immediate neighborhood, so I judge that they were breeding, although a brief search failed to reveal either nest or mate.

The two birds mentioned above are the only ones of the species I have ever seen on Long Island, but through the courtesy of Mr. William Dutcher, I am enabled to present the following additional information.

In 1879, Hon. Theodore Roosevelt published a brief paper entitled 'Notes on Some of the Birds of Oyster Bay, Long Island,' in which he says of the species, "rather common summer resident; much less so than the *minimus*. Frequents the dry, rather dense woods, keeping in the underbrush and among the lower branches of the trees. In autumn, I have found the curiously-banded young, associating with various warblers; otherwise they are solitary birds. Is more restless than the *trailli*. It has a querulous note, sounding like 'queech,' or 'qu-eech,' which it utters repeatedly and rapidly."

In 1888, Mr. Alfred Marshall found the bird breeding. Following is a copy of a letter written by him to Mr. Dutcher. He says, "I enclose letter of Capt Bendire, identifying the eggs and nest as Acadian Flycatcher. They were found June 17, 1888, at Northport, L. I. The nest was placed in a dogwood tree, about ten or twelve feet from the ground. It was in quite deep woods and about one hundred yards from a grass field. The nest is composed of bark of cedar, and is lined with weeds. The bird was very shy, and it was about an hour before I saw her at all."

From the records I have given, it will be seen that the Acadian Flycatcher is apparently confined on Long Island, to the heavily wooded districts of the north shore, where it is a regular and perhaps not uncommon resident.

Helminthophila chrysoptera.—Mr. J. P. Giraud, Jr., in his 'Birds of Long Island,' published in 1844, says of this bird: "On Long Island this species occurs only in small numbers, and according to my observations, is not an annual visitor." Since the publication of Mr. Giraud's work, I know of no published records of this species. I have myself secured but one specimen. This was a fine male which I killed at Parkville, Kings Co., on May 11, 1893; it was shot from a low limb in the tall woods, where it had apparently just alighted from a more or less extended flight.

There is a single specimen in the Lawrence collection, a male, collected by J. F. Ward, Aug. 15, 1831.

Mr. Roosevelt, in the paper previously referred to, says that he has "shot it but once, May 10, 1878."

Mr. Dutcher has one specimen in his collection, which was presented to him by Mr. John D. Hicks. It is a male, and was killed at Old Westbury, Queens Co., in the spring of 1880.

Helminthophila peregrina.—In 'The Auk' for April, 1889 (page 138), Mr. William Dutcher has given the only records of this bird from Long

Island; he mentions, in addition to the single specimen in the Lawrence collection, four specimens in his own collection, all received from the light-houses in the month of September.

I shot my first and only specimen in a low second growth tract of oaks at Lake Grove, Suffolk County, on Sept. 20, 1893. It is a young male.

Sylvania mitrata.—Since my previous record of this bird (Auk, Vol. IX, p. 306), I have secured another specimen, an immature female, in almost the identical spot in Parkville where I shot the first one, which was an adult male. The first specimen was killed April 30, 1892, as it alighted on the track of a railway which passes through the woods; the second one was shot May 15, 1893, as it was feeding in the lower limbs of the trees.

Mr. Dutcher has two specimens in his collection, one of which he has recorded (Auk, Vol. VI, p. 139); the other was killed at Shelter Island, May 16, 1891.

Mr. J. C. Knoess, the taxidermist of Riverhead, has one very fine specimen in his collection.

These, with two specimens in the collection of the Long Island Historical Society (Auk, Vol. X, p. 277) and two in the Lawrence collection, make in all nine recorded specimens from Long Island.—ARTHUR H. HOWELL, *Brooklyn, N. Y.*

Stray Notes from Massachusetts.—*Branta canadensis*.—Ponkapog Pond, Mass., Oct. 20, 1893. First Canada Geese seen in this locality this season; six birds. The next noted were twenty, on the 25th. These last were very tired.

Larus argentatus smithsonianus.—Oct. 22. A large movement of American Herring Gulls towards the southwest; weather fine and warm. White and gray plumaged birds were noted passing high up over the pond; one flock of twenty-two were flying in form of a harrow. The flocks varied from three or four birds to forty each. Between three and four hundred were estimated to have passed.

Charitonetta albeola.—Oct. 30. The first Buffle-heads this season were noted here to-day; no others have been seen, which is very unusual. Three birds noted up to Dec. 1st.

Fulica americana.—Sept. 19. The first American Coots, eighteen, seen to-day; six were shot. It is an unusually early date for them here.

Dafila acuta.—Sept. 21. An immature bird shot to-day.

Pandion haliaëtus carolinensis.—Sept. 22. Eight Fish-hawks passed over the pond to-day.

Spatula clypeata.—Sept. 25. One immature Shoveller Duck shot to-day.

Philohela minor.—Oakham, Mass., Oct. 15, 1893. Mr. J. F. Brown of Chelsea, Mass., informs me that in company with Mr. John Stone of Oakham he visited daily the Woodcock grounds in the vicinity of Oakham for fifteen consecutive days, commencing on the above date, but